

## **Biden Denies Recession Reality**

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**Byline:** Sean Hannity, Larry Kudlow, Geraldo Rivera, Jason Chaffetz, Charlie Hurt, Matt Finn, Sara Carter

**Guests:** Kellyanne Conway, Mark Brnovich, Matt Gaetz

### **Body**

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SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS HOST: All right, Tucker. Now, ask yourself this question. If you are Swalwell and you had a Fang-Fang story in your background, would you go on "The Tucker Carlson Show"?

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS HOST: I wouldn't ask any hard questions. But, I mean, I would ask some details -- some details.

(CROSSTALK)

HANNITY: It's going to be a cupcake, softball interview, I'm sure.

All right. Thank you, Tucker.

Welcome to HANNITY.

And tonight, Biden cowering in fear hiding behind a giant no card after getting threatened by China's dictator during an embarrassing humiliating phone call earlier today. We have every humiliating detail coming up.

Plus, fake moderate Joe Manchin sadly caved to the radical left of his party and now sadly the people of West Virginia, they will pay the price for him caving literally through higher taxes and higher inflation and a much longer recession than needed, a lower quality of life, all in the name of green renewable energy. We're going to expose the shameful hard left turn from the West Virginia senator.

By the way tonight, we have an interesting question. Why is Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington D.C. finally now asking for the National Guard and their assistance? We'll give you that answer coming up.

All right. But, first tonight, our top story of the day, I wish it was not true, but after two straight quarters of negative growth, we are officially in a recession. In 2020, this was the very definition of recession, look at that. According to CNN and CNBC and "The L.A. Times" and "The New York Times" and Nancy Pelosi and pretty much every notable economist and pretty much everyone else on earth.

But your mentally impaired, decrepit, old president knows better. According to Joe, we're definitely not in a recession in spite of we're actually having two consecutive quarters of negative growth. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The Inflation Reduction Act will add another \$370 billion in clean energy tax credits in reconciliation, including incentives to accelerate domestic production of solar panels

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wind turbines batteries and critical materials processing. That doesn't sound like a recession to me. Thank you very much.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: It does to everyone else with a brain that actually believes in definitions. Two straight quarters of negative growth.

And now, tonight we can report the housing market, which I've been warning you about, I told you this is going to happen, that a crash has now officially begun. New home construction will stop, sale of pre-existing homes, that will stop. People aren't going to want to give up their 2.8 percent 30-year fixed loan or 3.8 30-year fixed loan and go with a seven or eight percent 30-year fixed loan. They can't afford it.

Now, foreclosures are way up and you know the repo man from way back when, you have motor vehicle repossession are now also way up. We have nearly 50 percent of our fellow Americans struggling to simply pay their bills. We learned this week, consumer confidence is now at a new low inflation remains at a 40-plus year, high gas prices still are double what they were under Donald Trump even though they're tapping the strategic petroleum reserves which we need in case of an emergency, and Joe Biden is in complete denial and just lying to all of us. That should bother all of you the most.

You know, just like he lied about never talking to Hunter about his foreign business dealings, we have new evidence today. We have a report with Matt Gaetz coming up later in the program, 14 specific times Joe met with Hunter's foreign business partners, every American should be angry not only about his failure as a president but the fact that he lies and everyone else around them tells the same lies.

Today, in a bizarre moment, Biden insisting that ungrateful Americans, you're all ungrateful. You're only complaining about the economy, because they have jobs instead of \$8,000 checks from the government. It's your fault. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: But I started thinking about it just as a, you know, somebody who's raised a middle class kid. One year, even though you didn't have the job you have now, even though you didn't get a raise that year, the difference between having a job having a five percent raise or whatever three, five, seven, whatever it happens to be, in the face of inflation, price of the pump -- although that's down every day so far -- but, you know, it's like whoa, I feel worse off.

But then again I didn't get a check for eight grand from the government. They just -- among other things. Does that make any sense to anybody or is it just me?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: No, Joe, it doesn't make sense. It's sort of like Pete Buttigieg this week. More pain at the pump, we have more benefit from more pain than you experience. Who knows what Joe's talking about? Who knows why they're adopting these insane policies but they're hurting the entire country.

And I don't know that Fed Chairman Jerome Powell, he called today's negative GDP report even worse than expected maybe they should listen to him, although I don't frankly think he knows what the hell he's doing either. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JEROME POWELL, FEDERAL RESERVE CHAIRMAN: So I wouldn't say it was -- I think we didn't expect a good reading, but this one -- this one was even worse than expected I would say. I don't talk about my own personal estimate of what the terminal rate would be. I do -- I will write down that in -- it's going to evolve. It's obviously it has

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evolved over the course I think for all participants, it has evolved over the course of the year, as we learn, how persistent inflation is going to be.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: Every American needs to take note here. None of this is good, but as per usual, Joe Biden and all the hacks and advisers around him, they just refuse to tell the truth which again is nothing new. Joe was in denial.

Remember about Afghanistan? He lied, what a great success. We still have Americans behind enemy lines. It's nearly one full year, day 348 since he abandoned them. We have our Department of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas saying last week, oh, the border's secure. It's anything but secure, just the opposite.

Now, Joe lied about the Russian buildup of Russian troops around Ukraine. No, that doesn't necessarily mean that he's going to invade. Wrong again. They lied about the supply chain. They lied about not being warned about the baby formula shortage. They lied repeatedly about the causes of spiking gas prices.

They caused the price spike because they artificially reduce the world supply. They lied over and over and over again. Inflation is transitory. And now, Biden and everyone around him and the media mob, they're all lying about what is a very real recession by definition, by the definition that they themselves used two years ago.

In fact, today's massive spending bill and tax hike rubber stamp by Joe Manchin will make this recession our and our inflation that much worse. You can't fight inflation by printing money and raising taxes. By the way, you know who said that? Joe Biden -- I'm sorry, Joe Manchin and Barack Obama. We'll play it later.

Now, of course, Biden's constant state of denial and lying has led to serious consequences. Americans have died. We have others left and abandoned in Afghanistan. Europe is at war. Fentanyl is pouring across all borders, human trafficking inside the U.S. is at an all-time high and now Americans are being crushed by Joe's inflation his record high gas prices and a brand new recession.

So, it's time for all of them to stop spinning, stop lying, and admit to the truth and if you can first admit to the truth, it shall set you free, and maybe you'll start thinking about a course correction. Go back to securing our border go back to energy independence policies, we need a massive change in direction your policies are failing.

The American people, here with reaction, FOX Business host Larry Kudlow.

Larry, at any point in your career and your whole career has been about the economy, one way or the other, has anybody ever tried to change the historical definition of recession until this administration? Because I can't recall any other time they've tried this.

LARRY KUDLOW, FBN HOST: Well, no, it's all -- it's all phony baloney and malarkey coming out of the White House, everybody knows this.

Look, actually, the numbers today, yes, you had your second straight quarterly decline, but they were worse than the first quarter. And the inflation rate, Sean, was 8.9 percent. So it's a bad combination.

Actually I thought you're going to ask me, have you ever seen a swing down this fast. I mean, Biden in months, right, he took a strong economy growing at six percent with less than 2 percent inflation and in 18 months turned that into a high inflation recession, essentially stagflation, in just a year and a half. It's really quite remarkable.

And by the way, Sean, I happen to agree with your analysis -- way too much spending, way too much money printing, way too much war against fossil fuels driving up prices for everybody.

And okay, so let's fix this. Let's fix this. You and I can fix this. You're a supply-sider, right? Let's get make the Trump tax cuts permanent.

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Let's have deregulation. Let's have energy independence let's have deregulation across the board and then let's have a strong dollar to hold down inflation. This can be fixed with the supply-side agenda, but I don't think we're ever going to see it from Biden.

HANNITY: Larry, all of this was preventable. The crisis at our border was preventable.

KUDLOW: Yeah.

HANNITY: We would have -- if we would have kept the Trump policies. We would be paying \$2.20 a gallon for gasoline if we kept the Trump energy policies. If anything, we could have been the most energy dominant country on the face of this earth because as Putin is getting a billion dollars profit a day selling oil to Europe, although he's cutting it back and giving it to China and India. We could be supplying that their energy needs in western Europe and they wouldn't have to rely on Putin and we'd have the added benefit of bankrupting him.

So all of this was preventable now the worst thing they've done though is now and explain this to me -- they say this is all in the name of climate change. So it's okay to import energy from Iran and Russia and Venezuela and Saudi Arabia and OPEC but we can't do it domestically where we would do it cheaper where we would do it faster and we would do it cleaner.

Explain to me, how does that benefit Mother Earth? Does that make any sense to you?

KUDLOW: No, I mean, I don't -- look, you've got a bunch of climate extremists. You've got a bunch of climate zealots. It's like a religion. I mean, this bill -- this reconciliation bill that you mentioned with unfortunately Joe Manchin caving in.

By the way, Sean, this bill is going to increase it's going to double the tax on coal believe it or not. Manchin is from a coal state, so go figure.

But the bigger picture is we could have gotten out of this mess by keeping the spigots open by giving permits for drilling and permits for pipelines and permits for refineries and permits for LNG exports around the world. We could have done that but Biden won't do it.

And this reconciliation bill has got about what \$350 billion in green energy subsidies, you know, in tax credits. They're making the same mistake again.

By the way, take this bill and add on to it this Intel corporate welfare chips plus bill, and you know what you got, \$850 billion just in the last two days, \$850 billion in new spending and about \$750 billion in new taxes.

Now, I ask you, that is going to make the recession worse and the inflation higher. This is like the cure is worse than a disease. I've never seen anything like it. I've never seen anything this stupid.

HANNITY: Larry Kudlow, you're right on the money we can solve this it would take a little time I'd say about a year, year and a half probably we can get things back on track but it would take that long. It's not going to happen. This is their religion now. They won't change course. They'll go down with this ship.

Larry Kudlow, thank you as always.

Now, in a more bad frankly humiliating embarrassing news, Joe Biden literally got lectured and threatened repeatedly by China's President Xi today. Now it was beyond pitiful. I was embarrassed for my country, humiliating for the entire country.

Keep in mind, the country's ruling communist party has a bloodlust for our ally Taiwan and now many experts in the region believe that China is actively weighing an invasion of their sovereign island neighbor.

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To me, this is not even in doubt. President Xi knows that Biden is weak decrepit and that he's not going to do a thing when they, quote, have reconciliation with Taiwan when this was discussed during today's lengthy phone call. China's dictator Xi, he threatened the U.S. He demanded Nancy Pelosi cancel an upcoming trip to Taiwan.

The tyrant exclaimed, quote, those who play with fire will be perished by it. It is hoped that the U.S. will be clear-eyed about this, in response to this threat. What did your President Joey do or say? He did nothing. He just sat there. He took it, embarrassing the entire country. In fact Biden's still you know working to reward China. By ending the tariffs that Donald Trump put because they're not they're not involved with us in free and fair trade.

So he put tariffs on China. He's still looking the other way as the deadly, you know, Chinese fentanyl floods our southern border. He's given the country a free pass on the virus that was made in that lab in Wuhan. He's letting the communist party buy up land near our military bases buy up our farmland, our ranch land, hundreds of thousands of acres.

He sent a million barrels of our oil from our strategic reserves to China and another four million to other countries around the world at a time when we're paying the highest price we've ever paid for gas and diesel in our country's history. And now, Joe is cowering in fear and took a lecture and a threat from that dictator as they threaten our country. Joe, get a spine. Who the hell cares what President Xi thinks?

You should have been lecturing him about the death and horror that China unleashed on the world about how they treat minorities in their country. You should have demanded compensation for the well over one million Americans killed by the virus they try to hide from the world.

Remember, you could -- you could fly from Wuhan to any other part of the world but if you're in Wuhan, you aren't allowed to fly anywhere into China. And if you're in any other part of China, you aren't allowed to fly to Wuhan. I wonder why.

Why didn't you challenge them, Joe, on their unfair trade policies or their intellectual property theft?

Sadly, Joe Biden was a wimp today. He showed nothing but weakness nothing but appeasement, and, Joe, the next time just hang up the phone if some dictator threatens you. Keep the tariffs, maybe double them. Support Taiwan, green light Nancy Pelosi's trip instead of capitulation like you showed today, make the communist Chinese know that there will be serious deadly consequences for any invasion, because your weakness is inviting aggression. Only peace through strength works.

You might want to start listening to your generals, Joe, if you can, you know, focus long enough. But if you refuse to stand up for America and our allies, there will be serious questions about whether Joe Biden is compromised.

Now, we do know his son Hunter -- well, it's interesting, why did Joe Biden as he was canceling the Keystone XL pipeline, why did he give Vladimir Putin a waiver to build the Nord Stream 2 pipeline? Why is he giving -- you know, lifting tariffs in China? Why isn't he holding China accountable for COVID and other issues and intellectual property theft? Why is that?

Could it be because the Biden family syndicate got a \$1.5 billion deal with the Bank of China, Hunter running it, no experience whatsoever. In fact, the CCP funded the Biden family's lavish lifestyle for many years. What did they get in return? How compromised is the Biden family.

Here now with reaction, the co-host of "The Five", Geraldo Rivera, former senior counselor for President Trump, Kellyanne Conway.

You know, Geraldo, I know you're a patriot. I know you love your country but you watch today this president are you not humiliated and embarrassed how weak our president was. We're getting threatened by him. I wouldn't put up with that for five seconds and I'll tell you who else wouldn't have put up with it a guy by the name of Donald J. Trump. He wouldn't take that crap from anybody.

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GERALDO RIVERA, "THE FIVE" CO-HOST: Well, you know, the problem I think Sean is that I don't know that President Biden knows with our policy is vis-a-vis China. Back in May, you'll recall he was asked if he would use military force to defend Taiwan. Now, since the 1970s, as you know, since the Nixon-Kissinger days, we've had a policy of one China. There's the Chinese government in Beijing and Taiwan is part of China.

Now, what we've said is we have strategic ambiguity, we've hinted very strongly that if China were to try to take Taiwan by force, the United States would intervene. But now, I don't know what our policy is, and that's what the -- you know, the problem is that that leads to confusion and confusion leads to peril.

Now, you know, the tenor and tone of the remarks, I don't know, I don't like communist China. I don't trust communist China. I think China is our strategic rival, our principal strategic rival. Not Russia but China.

But picking this fight over Nancy Pelosi trip that I don't even know is real, I'm not sure that that's the wisest thing to do, Sean.

HANNITY: Kellyanne, I'd love your take on this. You know Donald Trump as well as I do. He never would have put up with that threat on that call.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, FORMER SENIOR COUNSELOR TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, he didn't put up with the threats. In fact, he took on communist China. He took them on the Uyghurs. He -- the persecution of the Uyghurs in China. He took him out on fentanyl.

I remember, December 1st in 2018, at the G20 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, President Trump took on President Xi about scheduling fentanyl and getting the heck out of our communities, out of our kids' bodies, guys, it's now the number one killer of 18 to 45 year olds in this country.

Did Joe Biden ask President Xi about fentanyl? Did he hold him to account for the Uyghurs? Did he hold into account for stealing our technology? Is he going to have this great trade deal that was enforceable and verifiable and written? With -- between the Trump administration -- between the USA and China in January of 2020, before we all -- days before we all found out what coronavirus was and what COVID-19 would turn out to be. Did he talk to him about that virus?

Look, I think the call today lasted two hours but the call today actually started a year ago when President Xi and Vladimir Putin and the rest of us in this world saw a feckless and a reckless commander-in-chief and President Joe Biden withdrawing from Afghanistan in such a chaotic deadly way, 13 service members lost, ignoring the advice of his generals.

We all saw, including Xi and Putin, we all saw women and children running across that tarmac the man hanging from the wing of the plane and turning over control of Afghanistan to the Taliban. And so, when an American president projects weakness, people, property, peace and prosperity are endangered and that's what we all saw today.

HANNITY: You know, Geraldo, I would have liked to have seen Joe Biden push back and say, you know what, you owe the world compensation for the deaths because of the virus created in that lab in your country and you knew damn well what was going on there. I would have preferred that Joe Biden say if you don't start free and fair trade, we're going to double down on our tariffs because we're going to insist that you start being a fair trading partner. I would have preferred that they'd be told in no uncertain terms what would the price be for intellectual property theft.

And more -- the most important thing is don't you dare tell us who we're going to send to our ally in Taiwan. Save your lectures, we will send anybody we want anywhere we want any time we want, and it's none of your business what we do. Why didn't he just say that? I can't believe I'm sticking up for Nancy Pelosi's right to go.

RIVERA: She has an absolute right to go --

HANNITY: She needs to go.

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RIVERA: -- understand the consequences. The last time a speaker of the House went, Newt Gingrich, was 1997. China of 1997 has no resemblance to the much more powerful China of 2022. But I also want to --

(CROSSTALK)

HANNITY: So, we should cower? Wait a minute, we should cower?

RIVERA: No, that's my point. That's my point. We have the USS Ronald Reagan there right now, the big carrier strike group, 50 ships, 27,000 sailors and marines. The United States is not wimping out. We -- you know, when their planes harass ours, we harass theirs.

(CROSSTALK)

HANNITY: I trust General Milley. I don't trust General Joe --

RIVERA: -- situation going on.

HANNITY: The generals all trust.

(CROSSTALK)

RIVERA: I want to know where the speaker -- is the Speaker Pelosi trip real? I -- though I haven't heard a word from her, why doesn't she announce? Why doesn't she announce that that she and Kevin McCarthy will go together?

HANNITY: They should I agree with that.

CONWAY: Because it's a safety issue. It's a safety issue for them. Look, it's a safety issue for her to really talk about her whereabouts.

But I'm very disappointed that Joe Biden when the number three Nancy Pelosi is being threatened, he talked about climate change today with Xi, instead about that.

HANNITY: Insane.

CONWAY: Look, his administration has had to walk back his comments May and October. He doesn't know what the policy is. So the rest of us don't know what the policy is.

HANNITY: I don't even think he could pick it out on a map. That's my opinion.

But anyway, thank you both.

When we come back, all right, Joe Manchin, he caved to the radical left and the climate alarmist cult even though just years ago, he himself said you should never raise taxes during a recession. Joe Manchin, we've got the tape. We will remind you of your own words, next.

HANNITY: And tonight, more big breaking news out of Washington where Senator Joe Manchin, he's now officially caved to the far left climate cult alarmist in his own party and says he's now going to go along with the Democrats' latest reckless tax, major tax increase and spending spree.

Now, sadly, Joe Manchin completely caved, folded to the climate alarmist cult that represents the new green deal Democratic Party. He chose them sadly over the great people of West Virginia, the many people whose very livelihood comes from the energy sector. The Democratic climate cult, they want to demolish and destroy that industry.

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Now, that includes billions in funds for the Democrats green new deal fantasies but that wasn't all that long ago, Joe Manchin, along with Barack Obama. Now, today we found out we're officially in a recession both of them said you know raise taxes in a recession. This bill is going to raise taxes to the tune of what billion.

Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JOE MANCHIN (D-WV): I don't think during a time of recession you mess with any of the taxes or increase any taxes.

TIMOTHY GEITHNER, TREASURY SECRETARY: And it does not make sense to raise taxes in a recession. So getting growth on track led by the private sector is going to is still our most important priority.

BARACK OBAMA, FORMER PRESIDENT: The last thing you want to do is to raise taxes in the middle of a recession because that would just suck up, take more demand out of the economy and put businesses in a further hole.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: Sadly, Manchin has now folded. You know, I did have a conversation with Donald Trump about this. I said, well, it looks like Manchin really sticking up for the people of West Virginia.

And he said to me, he'll fold. He always does and I said, no, I don't think so. He was right. I was wrong.

Now, he didn't do what he said he wouldn't do all along. He abandoned the people of West Virginia, whacking his state with a massive tax increase, full frontal assault on the energy sector. That is all at the heart of West Virginia's economy.

This legislation will not do a single thing to ease inflation. In fact, it will do the exact opposite. It's one big Democratic tax hike, with more regulation coming at a time when married couples are already paying and added six thousand eight hundred dollars more because of Biden inflation.

Individuals are paying another \$3,400 every year. If you drive your car, that's another two thousand dollars putting gas in your tank. The bill includes a fifteen percent corporate minimum tax. Are we the only ones that remind you corporations? They don't pay the taxes. They push the cost on to you. There's over a hundred billion more dollars that they think they can get for more IRS tax harassment enforcement.

All that really means that won't change my life at all. It means many more of you will get the annual HANNITY treatment and I don't wish that on anybody. Nearly \$400 billion for what they're calling energy security and climate change, Manchin previously held the line but now he's doing exactly what he said he would not do. He has now folded to the far left climate cult that represents his party.

Here with reaction, Fox News contributors Jason Chaffetz and Charlie Hurt.

Congressman, we start with you get your take on this. I really believed Manchin understood that what the Democrats were proposing would hurt his state in particular. I was pretty shocked to hear he's going along with the build back broke, new green deal madness, but he is.

JASON CHAFFETZ, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: He is, and this is what's shocking. You know, Manchin was put up there, as the one person who is with Kyrsten Sinema that was holding back the dam. But it -- to the good people of West Virginia, you got snookered. You got taken to the cleaners because this week alone, just this week he has recklessly added more spending, more than \$700 billion in more spending. Is that going to help you at the gas tank? Is that going to help you with inflation? No and he raised taxes on everybody's going to feel that in West Virginia.

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And the coal industry also got a tax increase. So good luck going back and explaining that. Shelly Moore Capito, she got it right, but Joe Manchin, don't believe that he thinks he stands on principle. He raises taxes, spends like a Democrat and the people of this country are going to pay the price especially there in West Virginia. I am so disappointed in this guy. He talks a good game but then when he pushes comes to shove he just folds like a house of cards.

HANNITY: You know, Charlie, as I look at this objectively, I just cannot wrap my mind around the idea without any real alternative. They say, we're going to -- we'll be energy independent with renewables. We don't have that technology or capacity and we won't for the next 10 to 20 years at a minimum.

But it's okay to import oil from countries that hate us, give up energy independence. It would be better for national security, high-paying career jobs. We literally would be back to two dollar a gallon gasoline and we could be the biggest producer of energy and bail out Western Europe and their energy needs, and become the wealthiest country on earth and pay next to no taxes.

Why wouldn't they even consider that plan in the interim while they're building their, quote, renewables?

CHARLIE HURT, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, I got to tell you. I didn't think it was possible to screw up the economy any worse than the Biden administration and Democrats already had in less than two years. And yet here we are, they've managed to find a new way to make it even worse and you know, of course, you know, Pete Buttigieg tells people who complain about \$6 a gallon gasoline that they would just go buy an electric car and he doesn't seem to care that an electric car costs \$66,000.

But in this -- under this bill, it's going to cost you \$62,000 instead of \$66,000. It's absolutely insane and -- and it's also a massive lie. The idea that they're calling it the Inflation Reduction Act.

This is going to -- this includes \$400 billion in government spending which, of course, is not going to help any average American but it is going to make inflation even worse.

(CROSSTALK)

HANNITY: It's Solyndra on steroids in the middle of a recession. It's even -- it's dumber than dumb. I mean, if you want to, if it's possible to screw up the economy anymore, this will do it. Even Manchin said it, and even Obama said it.

You don't raise taxes in the middle of a recession, exactly what they're doing. And of course, it's going to do nothing to lower the price at the pump for Americans and every product at every store that gets there by a truck, that's paying a lot more for diesel, costs all of us more because that cost gets passed on to us.

I don't know. I don't see how this ends well.

HURT: That truck driver is not getting a pay raise out of this.

HANNITY: Yeah, great point.

All right. Thank you both.

Straight ahead, tonight, the illegal immigrant accused of raping and impregnating that ten-year-old who had an abortion was in court today. We have a live report.

Also, so-called rape trees that Ted Cruz told us about that are happening along the border, popping up along the border. Well, we're going to explain more about what they really are and how prominent they are and how scary this all is, straight ahead.

HANNITY: More troubling developments tonight out of Ohio surrounding the illegal immigrant suspect charged with raping and impregnating that ten-year-old little girl.

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Here with the very latest is our very own Matt Finn.

Matt, sad, tragic story.

MATT FINN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: It really is, Sean, and you may recall the national spotlight shined on this hot button story earlier this month when President Biden referenced a ten-year-old Ohio girl raped then forced to travel to Indiana for an abortion because of Roe v. Wade being overturned.

Well, we now know that an illegal immigrant from Guatemala, 27-year-old Gerson Fuentes is the person accused of raping that 10-year-old girl and we learned Fuentes was living with the girl. Today in court, Fuentes was ordered to be held without bond. He pleaded not guilty to two counts of rape. The judge did not hold back when explaining why she ordered no bail.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JULIE LYNCH, FRANKLIN COUNTY JUDGE: When a child who has gone through the physical trauma of being raped, the physical trauma of being 10 years old and being impregnated, the physical and mental and emotional trauma of having to drive to another state.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

FINN: Columbus police say Fuentes confessed that he attacked the girl and DNA of the aborted fetus confirmed he was the father. If convicted, Fuentes faces life in prison with no parole, Sean.

HANNITY: God help that little girl. So sad for her. I hope this guy never gets out of jail ever.

Matt Finn, thank you.

All right. Now, tonight, Democratic-run cities, they're getting just a small glimpse of what border states are suffering from every day under the Biden open borders crisis. Now, in our nation's capital, D.C. Mayor Bowser, guess what? She finally supports calling up the National Guard, why, to handle the arrival of thousands of illegal immigrants in Washington who she says are straining their resources.

But what D.C. is now seeing pales in comparison to all the carnage and all the chaos and all the suffering human suffering that has been going on at our southern border every single day since Joe Biden became president and brought back not only catch and release, catch, process, give a free phone and free transportation to people that don't obey our laws, don't respect our borders or our sovereignty.

And as such, we have plenty of drug smuggling, lots of human traffickers, they've all been taking advantage of Biden's open borders, reckless immigration policy, in spite of the big lie that Mayorkas said that our borders are secure. That's a lie. It's not true. And those that are suffering the most are the most vulnerable.

Now, Senator Cruz was on this program earlier this week telling us what he is seeing with his own eyes at the border. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. TED CRUZ (R-TX): They described a phenomenon they're seeing now which is what they call rape trees, which is the cartels take women over girls are women and in the United States, they violently rape them here and then they hang the girls of the women's underwear in the trees. And so they're trees where they have dozens of women's underwear hanging in them and it's designed to be -- it's a trophy but it's also taunting law enforcement, you can't stop me.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: And as Senator Joni Ernst of Iowa explains, human smugglers are regularly taunting law enforcement as young girls continue to be raped.

## Biden Denies Recession Reality

Here with reaction, Arizona Attorney General Mark Brnovich, along with FOX News contributor Sara Carter.

Sara, you've been reporting for us at the border. This is not the first time I've heard about these, quote, rape trees. Have you seen them? How common is this? How common is rape when people take that perilous journey that they've been taking and these caravans are out there led by these human traffickers?

SARA CARTER, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: You know, Sean, when you were talking to Matt Finn and you were talking about the story of the year old girl, I was thinking to myself how many young girls I've spoken to when I've been out there on the border.

So, many young girls, some as young as six years old, seven years old. I remember being in Guatemala and they removed a group of young girls that they had found that were moving in a caravan towards the United States and they realized that all these young girls seven six eight years old weren't with any guardians at all. And unfortunately some of them had been sexually abused and physically abused.

So we're seeing this more and more. It's becoming more and more common, and because of Biden's border policy, this unbelievable policy that actually invites chaos, invites this kind of emboldening of the cartels and the human traffickers, we're seeing the traffickers go far beyond what we've ever really seen at the border. So, Senator Cruz, is right on target.

We're seeing like, for example, in March, some of the drug cartels that were on the U.S.-Mexico border here in Texas literally got out some of the members of a vehicle and began pointing automatic rifles at DPS helicopters up in the air. They're not afraid. Why are they not afraid? Because they're not going to pay a price for it.

And, Sean, I can tell you -- it is the most vulnerable and this year we're expecting a hundred and sixty nine thousand plus unaccompanied minors coming into the United States.

HANNITY: Unbelievable.

CARTER: And that's tragic.

HANNITY: Mr. Attorney General, I know you're in the middle of your Senate campaign and you got a big primary coming up.

You -- you have talked to me often about how bad this is. How bad is it on the human trafficking side? How common are these rapes taking place?

MARK BRNOVICH (R), ARIZONA ATTORNEY GENERAL: It's terrible, and you and I have spoken about this, Sean. We are running out of words and adjectives to describe what Joe Biden is doing.

But everyone listening tonight should make no mistake -- murderers, rapists are being enabled because Joe Biden will not do his job. He has decriminalized people breaking the law and he's incentivized people coming into this country illegally.

The cartels have seized operational control, Sean. They're not only making a bunch of money, but they're flooding drugs, fentanyl into this country that's being made in China and processed or driven across our border.

So we are paying the cost in so many ways and it just breaks my heart. I'm a first generation American. I'm doing everything I can in the courtroom, but shame on Joe Biden, shame on Kamala Harris, shame on Secretary Mayorkas. He needs to be impeached for letting this happen. We are all less safe as Americans and I'm doing everything I can to stop it.

HANNITY: Arizona needs to join Texas and Florida. Forget about Delaware, every illegal immigrant should be put on a bus and sent to Muriel Bowser and Joe Biden. That's where they belong. They're the ones that are aiding and abetting the law breaking. They should be responsible for the people that they've assisted to illegally enter our country.

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All right. Thank you both. We appreciate those reports.

Now, coming up, another day another scandal for zero experience Hunter Biden and the Biden family corruption. Here's the new twist: how connected is Joe to all of this -- way more than we knew yesterday. Congressman Matt Gaetz joins us next. He got an official at the DOJ to admit it, straight ahead.

HANNITY: All right. Now, just like we have been telling you, Joe Biden has repeatedly lied about never -- not one time ever talked to his son, talking to his son about his foreign business dealings. And tonight, we have new evidence exposing this Biden family foreign syndicate because a new review from FOX News Digital finds that Biden met with Hunter's business associates at least 14 times while he was vice president. We have pictures of some of the meetings.

Now, earlier today, Congressman Matt Gaetz pressed a senior Biden DOJ official on Hunter's dealings and why the department appears hell-bent on protecting Hunter no matter what. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. MATT GAETZ (R-FL): Where's the laptop? Do you know where Hunter Biden's laptop is?

MATTHEW OLSEN, DOJ OFFICIAL: Again, I'm not going to talk about any potential ongoing --

GAETZ: Do you know where it is? Do you know where it is?

OLSEN: I'm not going to talk about any ongoing investigations.

GAETZ: You come here and you tell us you follow the facts in the law but you can't even follow a laptop that you guys have had for three years. The good news is you're not the only ones with that laptop. So Patrick Hoe was convicted of bribing government officials in Africa and he gave a million bucks to Hunter Biden. Are you familiar with that?

OLSEN: I'm not going to speak about any ongoing investigation.

GAETZ: Is that an ongoing -- is that an ongoing investigation?

OLSEN: I can't -- I'm not going to speak about any potential ongoing investigation?

GAETZ: Don't you see that that degrades the country's like belief in you guys when you have whistleblowers saying that you're purposefully rat holding this information and then you come here and say you won't talk about it?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HANNITY: Here with reaction, Congressman Matt Gaetz of Florida who is -- you have a primary coming up I hear, right? I know you're well liked in the district and I'm sure you'll do well.

You know, we found out that the DOJ and the FBI were apparently protecting Hunter Biden and Joe Biden by claiming that uh things we would call evidence were nothing but Russian disinformation, add that to your line of questioning, and I think you have an even bigger story on top of what 14 examples of Joe Biden meeting with Hunter's foreign business partners.

GAETZ: The Biden family crime spree is ongoing. It's unfolding before our eyes and today we learned more about the people inside our own government who are helping them. You know, you have Hunter Biden selling the influence to foreign governments and then Joe Biden specifically has a role meeting with Hunter's associates. FOX News broke the huge story, 14 specific examples, each one of those representing a lie because remember Joe Biden told us he was never involved in his son's business deals. Now, they're getting rich, America is getting a recession.

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And FBI whistleblowers are now coming forward to tell us that anytime there's derogatory information that comes forward about Hunter, they just label it for an interference and they stick it in a drawer. The irony in that is that Hunter Biden is the white glove valet of foreign interference inside of our country and they're getting deliverables for it, Sean.

The Trump-China initiative was a way to focus prosecutions to stop Chinese espionage, well, this Biden DOJ, they did away with the China initiative. That's allowing more of this malign influence and certainly showing that this is a compromised first family.

HANNITY: We saw that Biden leveraged a billion dollars to get a Ukrainian prosecutor fired in six hours. We know that he had no experience and made millions there. We know he made millions from a Russian oligarch. Is that the reason why Joe gave the Nord Stream 2 pipeline waiver to Putin while simultaneously canceling the Keystone XL pipeline? Is that why he's going to lift tariffs in the case of China why he sat quietly and got a beat down from President Xi today? Is that why I guess that he's not taking on China and the origins of the COVID virus? Is there -- in other words that these countries --

(CROSSTALK)

HANNITY: Do they have the family compromised? I would argue yes because Libya did.

GAETZ: Well, I gave the head of the national security division of the Department of Justice the opportunity today to say unequivocally Joe Biden is not compromised and you know what, he couldn't do it. And when talking about Hunter, he specifically cited ongoing investigations. Now those might be investigations to nowhere because I don't think anyone in this FBI really wants to be involved in holding the Biden family accountable.

But we can directly tie the actions in U.S. policy to the travel of Hunter Biden. We can tie the granting of business licenses to introductions that Hunter Biden specifically made to Joe Biden. So this isn't just a wayward son doing strange things all around the world.

Both Hunter Biden and Joe Biden have specific roles within the Biden crime family. They're getting very wealthy doing it and U.S. policy is suffering as a consequence while the Chinese communist party laughs at us. And they take over our government without even firing a single shot.

HANNITY: And, you know, if you're a conservative or a Republican, and you jaywalked, you get 10 years, you get you know a pre-dawn raid, guns drawn, CNN cameras. But if you're a Democrat, you get away with anything. That's -- we don't have equal justice under the law in my opinion, anymore.

Congressman Matt Gaetz, thank you as always. Appreciate you being with us.

When we come back, more HANNITY straight ahead.

HANNITY: Unfortunately, that is all the time we have left this evening. As always, thank you for being with us. Thank you for making this show possible. Please set your DVR so you never miss an episode of HANNITY. For news anytime, just go to [foxnews.com](http://foxnews.com), [hannity.com](http://hannity.com).

In the meantime, let not your hearts be troubled, "The Ingraham Angle" that means Laura Ingraham is next, and she is fired up, revved up, ready to go -- Laura.

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